

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15

PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 DODE-00 NSC-05 /059 W

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O R 301643Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8512

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 07296

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR NATO GW WB FR UK US NO

SUBJECT: MAY 1976 QUADRIPARTITE MEETING ON BERLIN AND  
GERMANY: STATUS REPORT ON BONN GROUP  
PREPARATIONS

REFS: (A) STATE 103168; (B) STATE 89938;

(C) STATE 79101; (D) USNATO 2310; (E) BONN 7266;

(F) BONN 7226; (G) BONN 7220; (H) BONN 7091;

(I) BONN 7071

BEGIN SUMMARY. THERE FOLLOWS A STATUS REPORT ON BONN  
GROUP PREPARATIONS FOR THE OSLO MEETING, INCLUDING ALL  
ITEMS ON WHICH ACTION WAS PROPOSED BY THE DEPARTMENT  
IN REF (C). END SUMMARY.

1. COMMUNIQUE. BONN GROUP CONSIDERATION WILL BE  
RESUMED MAY 4, AFTER FURTHER REACTIONS FROM CAPITALS.  
SINCE THE APRIL 29 BONN GROUP DISCUSSION REPORTED IN  
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REF (G), THE FRENCH REP (BOISSIEU) HAS TOLD US PRIVATELY

THAT HE WOULD BE ABLE TO ACCEPT THE COMPROMISE TEXT PROPOSED BY THE US REP AS SET OUT IN PARA 5, REF (G). BOISSIEU SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THAT WORDING WOULD BE AS FAR AS HE WOULD BE ABLE TO GO, AND THAT HE HAD REFRAINED FROM ACCEPTING IT IN THE APRIL 29 BONN GROUP MEETING BECAUSE HE WAS SURE THE FRG REP WOULD RETURN WITH AN "IMPROVED" VERSION.

2. BERLIN ASSESSMENT. THE BONN GROUP HAS REACHED AD REF AGREEMENT ON AN ASSESSMENT (TEXT REPORTED IN REF F), AND REACTIONS FROM CAPITALS ARE NOW AWAITED.

3. AGENDA. THE BONN GROUP HAS ALSO REACHED AD REF AGREEMENT ON AN AGENDA FOR THE SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING (REF E). THE TERM "ANNOTATED AGENDA" WILL NOT BE USED. AS REPORTED EARLIER, THE BONN GROUP IS NOT PROPOSING A SEPARATE AGENDA FOR THE MINISTERIAL MEETING, ON THE THEORY THAT THAT AGENDA WILL BE DRAWN UP BY SENIOR OFFICIALS. IT HAS BEEN AGREED THAT VAN WELL WILL REPORT TO MINISTERS ON THE RESULTS OF THE SENIOR LEVEL MEETING, AND HIS REPORT WILL MAKE REFERENCE TO ANY ITEMS MINISTERS ARE ASKED TO CONSIDER. THE DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS ON THE DRAFT AGENDA AND ON THIS PROCEDURE ARE REQUESTED.

4. US AND FRG PROPOSALS FOR COUNTERING SOVIET ACTION.

A. US PROPOSAL (REF C). THE FRG REP (HENZE) STATED AT THE APRIL 29 BONN GROUP MEETING THAT THE FRG ENDORSED THE US PROPOSAL FOR A STUDY OF THE BERLIN SITUATION WHICH MIGHT BE USED IN BRIEFING OTHER GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL OFFICIALS. NEITHER THE BRITISH NOR THE FRENCH REP HAD SPECIFIC REACTIONS TO THE US PROPOSAL, BUT BOTH AGREED THAT IT SHOULD BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE SENIOR LEVEL MEETING. IN BILATERAL CONVERSATION, BOISSIEU HAS TEMPERED HIS EARLIER CRITICISMS OF THE US PROPOSAL, INDICATING THAT THE FRENCH WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO CONDUCTING THE STUDY AND PERHAPS USING IT WITH SELECTED OFFICIALS, PROVIDED IT WAS HANDLED CAUTIOUSLY. (HIS CHANGED ATTITUDE MAY

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REFLECT RETHINKING IN PARIS AS A RESULT OF THE ANDERSON-MASSSET CONVERSATION REPORTED REF B.)

B. FRG PROPOSAL. THE BONN GROUP DISCUSSED THE FRG DRAFT (REF I) FOR THE FIRST TIME ON APRIL 29, WHEN HENZE CLARIFIED THAT THE FRG PAPER WAS NOT INTENDED TO BE THE PROPOSED STUDY ON FOREIGN REPRESENTATION BUT MERELY AN ELABORATION OF WHY SUCH A STUDY IS NEEDED.

BOISSIEU EXPRESSED DOUBTS ABOUT THE ABILITY OF THE BONN GROUP TO COME UP WITH AN AGREED PAPER BEFORE OSLO AND PROPOSED THAT THE FRG DRAFT MERELY BE APPENDED TO THE AGENDA, FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE SENIOR LEVEL MEETING. THE US REP AGREED WITH THIS FRENCH SUGGESTION AS BEING CONSISTENT WITH US INSTRUCTIONS (REF A). HE ADDED THAT THE US, IN AGREEING TO UNDERTAKE A THOROUGH STUDY OF THE

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REPRESENTATION PROBLEM, WOULD WISH TO AVOID AGREEING ON ANY CONCLUSIONS BEFORE THE STUDY HAD BEEN COMPLETED. THE DANGER THAT AN ALLIED DEMARCHE TO THE SOVIETS MIGHT BE COUNTERED WITH A SOVIET REQUEST FOR FULL CONSULTATIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED.

HENZE SAID THE FRG WOULD PREFER TO HAVE AN AGREED BONN GROUP PROPOSAL BEFORE OSLO, BUT HE ACCEPTED AD REF

THE FRENCH AND US SUGGESTION FOR REFERRING THE FRG DRAFT TO SENIOR OFFICIALS. THE UK REP (HITCH) ADDED, ON THE BASIS OF PRELIMINARY REACTIONS FROM LONDON, THAT THE MOST TO BE EXPECTED FROM THE OSLO MEETING WOULD BE THAT MINISTERS WOULD LAUNCH ONE OR BOTH PROJECTS. THERE COULD BE NO THOUGHT OF SUBMITTING A FINAL STUDY TO MINISTERS AT OSLO OR OF MINISTERS' COMMITTING THEMSELVES AT OSLO TO UNDERTAKING DEMARCHES, EITHER TO THE SOVIETS OR TO THE THIRD WORLD. SUCH DECISIONS, IN LONDON'S CONFIDENTIAL

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VIEW, WOULD HAVE TO AWAIT THE RESULTS OF SUBSEQUENT BONN GROUP STUDIES.

5. NAC BRIEFING. THE BONN WILL CONSIDER NEXT WEEK A DRAFT FOR A NAC BRIEFING ON BERLIN, AIMING FOR AGREEMENT ON A PAPER WHICH CAN BE APPROVED BY CAPITALS IN TIME TO MEET USNATO'S MAY 10 DEADLINE (REF D).

6. PRESS COVERAGE OF MINISTERIAL MEETING. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION BY THE US REP, LUECKING (FRG) HAS CONFIRMED THAT THE FRG WILL WISH TO ISSUE A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE QUADRIPARTITE MEETING ON MAY 21. WHILE THE STATEMENT WILL BE WORKED OUT BY THE MINISTERS, THE FRG WILL TRY TO HAVE A FIRST DRAFT FOR BONN GROUP CONSIDERATION ON MAY 4. AS REPORTED IN REF (I), THE MINISTERIAL MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE AT OSTMARKSETEREN, A REMOTE VILLA ABOUT 20-30 MINUTES FROM DOWNTOWN OSLO. LUECKING SAID THE SITE HAS BEEN CHOSEN PARTIALLY FOR SECURITY REASONS, AND IT IS NOT EXPECTED THAT PRESS REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE THERE. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE FRG MIGHT ARRANGE -- "AS THE US DID IN BRUSSELS IN DECEMBER" -- FOR TV COVERAGE OF THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE MEETING.  
HILLENBRAND

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